

State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913 PH (517) 373.6960 | FAX (517) 373.0897 www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/jelinek/

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Contact: Sen. Ron Jelinek 1-866-305-2121

Senate sends meth package to governor

LANSING – An 18-bill legislative package to protect communities from methamphetamine was sent to the governor today, said Sen. Ron Jelinek, one of the sponsors.

The bills focus on cleaning up meth-sites, protecting children who have been exposed to meth and providing public access to clean-up procedures.

"Methamphetamine is having disastrous effects on our communities, especially here in Southwestern Michigan," said Jelinek, R-Three Oaks. "This package is another step forward in the fight against meth. I hope these bills are signed into law immediately so we can start cleaning up and making our towns safer once again."

The legislative package will:

- o Require the Department of Human Services to partner with local law enforcement when a child has been exposed to meth.
- Require DHS to refer child abuse cases that include a child's exposure to meth production to the prosecuting attorney.
- Require statewide criteria that every community should follow in order for a home or other meth production site to be considered clean and ready for occupancy.
- Require DEQ to report to the Legislature the nature of environmental contamination materials found during meth lab busts.
- o Require a public website listing the location of meth busts and indicating if the location has been cleaned.
- o Allow the attorney general to prosecute a person maintaining a website containing instructions for producing meth.
- o Prohibit the sale, via the Internet, of the ingredients used to manufacture meth.
- Ask Congress to provide funding to help states and local communities clean up and deal with the effects of meth labs.

The package consists of Senate Bills 1112-1117, 1119 and 1282, Senate Resolution 101, along with House Bills 5842-45, 5797-98, 5822, 5841, 5846 and 5930.